



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0313-0003.01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of:

Aaron V. Kaplan, et al.

Serial No.: 10/007,364

Filed: November 15, 2001

Group Art No.: 3731

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
TRANSPERICARDIAL LEFT  
ATRIAL APPENDAGE CLOSURE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicants hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The U.S. patents cited in this Information Disclosure Statement were brought to Applicant's attention by the examiner in co-pending U.S. application 10/105,907, filed 3/25/2002 in an office action dated May 11, 2005.

It is believed that copies of these patents are not required to be submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of the present application because the present application conforms to the provisions set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.98, paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii).

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicants also respectfully reserve the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure

of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after a Response to Non-Final Rejection and before a final office action under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c). Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information continued in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing of information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), a fee under §1.17(p) is not required for the filing of this information disclosure statement. In the event an office action is mailed, authorization is hereby given to charge deposit account no. 50-1039. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 23, 2005

By: 

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5-24-05

3731  
CW

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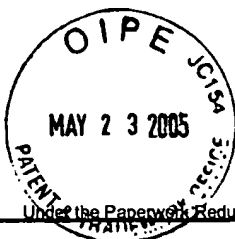
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	Filing Date	November 15, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Aaron V. Kaplan, et al.
	Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo
	Attorney Docket Number	0313-0003.01
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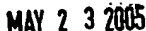
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Application Number	10/007, 364
Filing Date	November 15, 2001
First Named Inventor	Aaron V. Kaplan
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo
Attorney Docket Number	0313-0003.01

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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